

Message Text

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INFO ALL CONSULATES IN MEXICO VIA POUCH

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SUBJECT: PRI CONGRESSIONAL CANDIDATES NAMED

1. THE RULING REVOLUTIONARY INSTITUTIONAL PARTY (PRI) HAS SELECTED ITS CANDIDATES FOR ELECTION TO 64 SENATE AND 194 FEDERAL DEPUTY SEATS FOR THE CONGRESS WHICH WILL BE SEATED SEPTEMBER 1. WE INTEND TO SUBMIT THOROUGH ANALYSIS OF SELECTION, BUT HIGHLIGHTS AND FIRST IMPRESSIONS FOLLOW.

2. VIPS IN THE SENATE: THE SENATE SLECTIONS CONTAIN A NUMBER OF POLITICAL VIPS OF THIS ADMINISTRATION: HUGO CERVANTES DEL RIO (PRESIDENTIAL ASPIRANT AND FORMER PRESIDENCY SECRETARY), CARLOS SANORES PEREZ (LEADER OF THE CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES 1973-1976), FAUSTO ZAPATA (SUBSECRETARY OF THE RPRESIDENCY), ELISEO MENDOZA BERRUETO(SUBSECRETARY OF INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE), EUQUERIO GUERRERO(PRESIDENT OF THE SUPREME COURT), DAVID GUTIERREZ RUIS(LEADER OF PRI'S POPULAR SECTOR) AND GENERAL FEDERIOC AMAYA RODGRIGUEZ(COMMANDER OF THE 15TH MILITARY ZONE--JALISCO).

3. GOMEZ VILLANUEVA TO CHAMBER: THE SELECTION OF FEDE-
RAL DEPUTIES HAS INTRODUCED RELATIVELY MORE NEW NAMES,
BUT IS NOT WITHOUT A FEW SURPRISES. AUGUSTO GOMEZ
VILLANUEVA, WHO WAS SENATOR, SECRETARY OF AGRARIAN RE-
FORM, SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE PRI, IN ADDITION TO
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PRESIDENTIAL ASPIRANT, IS GOING TO THE CHAMBER OF

DEPUTIES, UNDOUBTEDLY TO BE LEADER. OTHER SURPRISE NOMINATIONS INCLUDED THE DIRECTOR OF ESTABLISHMENT LEFTIST EL DIA, ENRIQUE RAMIREZ Y RAMIREZ; EXCELSIO COLUMNIST ARMANDO LABRA; ECHEVERRIA "BRAIN TRUSTER" JESUS PUENTE LEYVA; AND ANTONIO ZORRILLA, PRIVATE SECRETARY TO INTERIOR UNDERSECRETARY FERNANDO GUTIERREZ BARRIOS.

4. JLP CONFIDANTS: THREE PERSONS WHO ARE INTIMATED OF PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE JOSE LOPEZ PORTILLO HAVE BEEN NAMED CANDIDATES FOR THE SENATE: RODOLFO LANDEROS, GUILLERMO ROSELL DE LA LAMA, AND GILBERTO RUIZ ALMADA. WE HAVE NOT SPOTTED ANY FEDERAL DEPUTY NOMINEES KNOWN TO BE JLP INTIMATES.

5. WOMEN AND LABOR INCREASE: IDENTIFICATION OF CANDIDATES BY PARTY SECTOR IF THUS FAR TOO SPOTTY TO PERMIT MEANINGFUL COMPARISON WITH PREVIOUS SELECTIONS, BUT IT APPEARS THAT PREDICTIONS THAT THE LABOR SECTOR WOULD INCREASE ITS SHARE OF SEATS ARE TRUE. IT IS LESS CLEAR THAT THE CAMPESINO SECTOR DID AS WELL. WOMEN HAVE GAINED ABOUT SIX OR SEVEN SEATS, HALF OF THEIR TOTAL OF NINETEEN COMING FROM THE FEDERAL DISTRICT.

6. COMMENT: THE MOST STRIKING FEATURE OF THE CANDIDATE SELECTION IS THE HIGH RETENTION RATE OF PROMINENT LEADERS OF THE ECHEVERRIA GOVERNMENT, NOTABLY CERVANTES DEL RIO, AUGUSTO GOMEZ VILLANUEVA, AND CARLOS SANORES PEREZ. GOMEZ WILL UNDOUBTEDLY BE LEADER OF OF THE CHAMBER. EITHER CERVANTES OR SANORES COULD BECOME SENATE LEADER-- SANORES HAS MORE LEGISLATIVE EXPERIENCE BUT CERVANTES HAS BEEN THE BIGGER FISH. ALTHOUGH THIS COULD BE VIEWED AS CONTINUISMO, ONE JLP INTIMATE HAS TOLD EMBOFF THAT "ALL THE PEOPLE JLP DOESN'T LIKE HAVE BEEN GOTTEN RID OF" IN THE LEGISLATURE, WHERE JLP WON'T HAVE TO GIVE THEM JOBS.

7. THE SELECTION IS INTERESTING ALSO FOR THE INCLUSION OF FAUSTO ZAPATA, JESUS PUENTE LEYVA, GILBERTO RUIZ ALMADA, AND ELISEO MENDOZA BERRUETO, WHO FIT THE YOUNG TECHNOCRAT MORE THAN THE POLITICO IMAGE.

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8. ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS, PRI PRESIDENT MUNOZ LEDO RESISTED PRESSURE FROM UNIDENTIFIED SOURCES TO BECOME A LEGISLATIVE CANDIDATE; RODOLFO ECHEVERRIA RUIZ, WHO UNDOUBTEDLY COULD HAVE GOTTEN A SENATE SEAT, IS NOT INCLUDED EITHER. WE WOULD GUESS BOTH ARE CONFIDENT OF MORE APPEALING EXECUTIVE BRANCH JOBS.

9. ONE OTHER INTERESTING SELECTION IS THAT OF JESUS CABRERA MUNOZ LEDO, A CAREER DIPLOMAT AND FOREIGN SECRETARIAT OFFICIAL. WE HAVE HAD EXTENSIVE DEALINGS WITH CABRERA. HIS SELECTION MAY OWE, AS HE CLAIMED TO AMB. JOVA, TO A PERSONAL CONNECTION WITH JLP, BUT HE IS RELATED TO PRI PRESIDENT MUNOZ LEDO AND ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS IS CLOSE TO HIM POLITICALLY.
JOVA

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